THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) (a) This Ministry does not maintain the records of TV programmes of various private channels.

(b) to (d) Registration, investigation and prosecution of cases arising out of criminal incidents is the responsibility of State governments. However, the Union Government has, from time to time, been advising the State Governments to improve the criminal justice system and in particular to take effective measures for prevention of crimes against vulnerable sections of the society such as women, children, members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, old persons and religious and linguistic minorities. The data with regard to specific incidents is not maintained in the Ministry.

Discussion on the eradication of piracy

†3331. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to discuss the issue of eradication of piracy with the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had received any proposal from the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) During the recently concluded 25th State Information Ministers' Conference (SIMCON) held from 15-16 April 2005, discussions were held, *inter-alia*, on the issue of piracy. While some measures were considered in order to deter piracy in the film and music industry, no specific proposal has been received from any State Government in this regard.

Publication of Foreign newspapers

†3332. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government are considering not to allow publication of foreign newspapers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) The extant print media policy of the Government prohibits publication of Indian edition of any foreign newspaper or newsmagazine in India. The policy is under review. However, no decision has been taken.

Recovery of Outstanding Dues

†3333. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Film Development Corporation, his Ministry's undertaking , is suffering huge financial losses due to non-realization of dues amounting crores of rupees from the advertisement agents appointed by above corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken for recovery of the dues?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Corporation was marketing Commercial Time on the slots allotted by Doordarshan to various advertising agencies and many of the agencies have defaulted in payment of dues.

(b) Recovery of dues could not be effected due to discontinuance of the marketing of Commercial Time of Doordarshan by the corporation since September, 2003 as Doordarshan started marketing its Commercial Time on its own. The details of the defaulting agencies is given in the Statement *(See* below*)*

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.